

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Thomas COLLINS et al. Confirmation No.:

1055

Serial No.:

09/694,416

Group Art Unit:

2137

90/005,776 (Merged) 90/005,733 (Merged)

Filed:

October 20, 2000

Examiner:

M. Smithers

For:

Public Key Cryptographic

Docket No.:

200301647-5

Date: February 15, 2007

Apparatus And Method

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 17, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of August 17, 2006, please amend the above-identified applications as follows:

AMENDMENT IN MERGED REISSUE/REEXAMINATION APPLICATIONS

Amendments to the Specification Already Entered begin on page 2 of this paper.

New Amendments to the Specification begin on page 14 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 16 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 51 of this paper.

Appendices including a list of claim amendments relative to a past submission, as well as a clean claim listing, are attached following page 63 of this paper.

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